

### **Amendments to the Claims**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**1-33. (Cancelled)**

**34. (New) A composition comprising:**

dead *E. coli* containing therein at least one modified allergen whose amino acid sequence differs from that of a wild-type allergen that occurs in nature such that the modified allergen has a reduced ability to bind to or cross-link IgE as compared with the wild-type allergen; and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

**35. (New) The composition of claim 34, wherein the wild-type allergen is found in nature in foods, venoms, or latex.**

**36. (New) The composition of claim 34, wherein the wild-type allergen is found in nature in a food selected from the group consisting of peanuts, milk, eggs, seafood, nuts, dairy products, and fruit.**

**37. (New) The composition of claim 34, wherein the wild-type allergen is found in nature in bee venom.**

**38. (New) The composition of claim 34, wherein the wild-type allergen is Ara h 1 (SEQ ID NO:1), Ara h 2 (SEQ ID NO:2), or Ara h 3 (SEQ ID NO:3).**

**39. (New) The composition of claim 34, wherein the sequence of the modified allergen differs from the sequence of the wild-type allergen by one or more amino acid deletions, substitutions or additions within an IgE binding site of the wild-type peanut allergen.**

**40. (New) The composition of claim 39, wherein the sequence of the modified allergen lacks**

a portion of the wild-type allergen sequence, and wherein said portion includes an IgE binding site.

41. **(New)** The composition of claim 34, wherein the modified allergen is located in the cytoplasm of the dead *E. coli*.

42. **(New)** The composition of claim 34, wherein the modified allergen is located in the periplasm of the dead *E. coli*.

43. **(New)** The composition of claim 34, wherein the modified allergen cannot be detected by antibody binding without disrupting the dead *E. coli*.

44. **(New)** The composition of claim 34, wherein the composition is formulated for rectal administration.